Government of India took a series of actions. A comprehensive plan including guidelines and standard operating procedures were put in place. Travel advisory was issued to defer non essential travel to the affected countries. Entry screening of passengers started at 22 international airports and five international checkpoints Community surveillance to detect clusters of influenza like illness is being done through Integrated Disease Surveillance Project. National Institute of Communicable Diseases, Delhi and National Institute of Virology, Pune are testing clinical samples. Sixteen additional laboratories have also started testing. There is adequate quantity of Oseltamivir, the drugs and protective equipments. License has been issued to three Indian manufacturers for importing seed virus to manufacture flu vaccine. Short term media plan has been implemented. Travel advisory, do's and don'ts and other pertinent information has been widely published to alley fear and avoid panic. Media is kept informed on daily basis. The pandemic preparedness and response calls for actions in sectors beyond health. National Disaster Management Authority has issued guidelines for such actions.

All States have been requested to gear up the State machinery and strengthen isolation facilities including critical care facilities at district level.

Government is fully geared up to deal with the situation.

Special schemes for coir industry

233. SHRI P. RAJEEVE: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is contemplating any special scheme to ward off the crisis in the coir industry arising out of the global melt down; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The Government is implementing a Central Sector Scheme on 'Export Market Promotion' through Coir Board, a statutory body under the administrative control of this Ministry, for developing the exports of coir and coir products. The Government is not contemplating any special scheme to ward off the crisis in coir industry exclusively as a result of the global meltdown. Though the global meltdown began impacting the exports in general, during mid 2008-09, the export of coir products during the year 2008-09 was 1, 94,791.08 MT valued at Rs. 634.17 crore which is about 4% higher in terms of quantity and 7% higher in terms of value as compared to the previous year, 2007-08. Exports of coir industry were not under affected by the global meltdown in 2008-2009, as such.

Revival of MSMEs

234. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of MICRO, SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES be pleased to state: